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EDITOR'S NOTE.

We take pleasure in presenting herewith the minutes and proceedings of the Tenth Annual Conference of Biblical Instructors in American Colleges and Secondary Schools and of the Third Annual Conference of the Middle West Section of this association.

As heretofore, these minutes and proceedings have been edited by Professor Charles F. Kent of Yale University, the President of the Association.

R. L. KELLY.

The Tenth Annual Conference of Biblical Instructors in American Colleges and Secondary Schools was held at Columbia University in New York City on December 30 and 31, 1919.

The first meeting was an informal get-together for dinner at the Faculty Club, Tuesday evening, at which time a few matters of business were discussed and acted upon. Professor Charles Foster Kent of Yale University, President of the Association, in an informal welcome, spoke of the gratifying way in which the schools and colleges of the East and Middle West were getting to know one another, and to co-operate with one another in the problems which are their common meeting ground. He spoke of the need for such co-operation in the South and particularly between the schools of the North and South, urging strongly that before another winter some definite effort be made to unite the two sections of the country through the medium of a visit by some one representing the Association, preferably the incoming President which should include the larger institutions of the Southern States. The motion was carried that any funds available in the Association treasury during the year should be appropriated to the cost of such a visit. Approval of the proposed trip as outlined by Professor Kent was unanimous.

Chaplain Knox, Secretary of the Association, made the gratifying report that after a long period of poverty, the Association actually had available funds in the bank amounting to \$54.99.

Professor Irving F. Wood of Smith College, chairman of the committee appointed last year to report on the ques-

tion of Bible History as a college entrance elective, said that very little had been done up to within a few weeks, owing to the fact that his committee had had practically nothing to go on. Since the report of the commission on the definition of a unit of Bible study or Secondary Schools has been received through Dr. Robert L. Kelly, Executive Secretary of the Council of Church Boards of Education, however, Smith College has signified its willingness to accept the work as outlined by this commission, as one unit for college entrance. Professor Wood believes that with this report as a basis, it is quite likely that more colleges for women will make a similar declaration before long*. The President authorized continuation of the work of this committee for another year. The other members of the committee are Mr. Hickok of Wells College, Miss Keith of Western College, Mrs. Castor of Mills College, and Miss Kendrick of Wellesley. Speaking for the mens' colleges, Professor W. H. Wood of Dartmouth reported that following the statement of the requirements in Bible History for college entrance, the faculty of Dartmouth had voted unanimously to accept Bible History as one unit for college entrance. Columbia, Syracuse, and Chicago Universities have similarly voted. Professor Wood's report was received with great satisfaction. This committee was also authorized to continue its work for another year.

In addition, three new committees were appointed, a temporary nominating committee consisting of Professor Barton of Bryn Mawr, chairman, Professor Wild of Mount Holyoke, Professor Fowler of Brown, and T. R. Hyde of the Hill school; a committee to ascertain the willingness of the preparatory schools to offer the course in Bible History as outlined by the commission appointed for that purpose, consisting of Dr. H. G. Buehler of the Hotchkiss School, chairman, Arthur Howe of the Taft School, and T. R. Hyde of The Hill School; also a similar committee for girls' preparatory schools, consisting of Miss Knot, chairman, of Bradford; and Miss Thompson of Dobbs Ferry.

*Note.—An early issue of Christian Education will give the names of some 150 colleges which have approved the work of this Commission.—R. L. Kelly.

The first annual formal gathering of the conference was held in Earl Hall Tuesday evening following dinner at the Faculty Club. The President, in an admirable opening address, reviewed the progress made during the first ten years of the Association, of which the present conference was justly a commemoration. Perhaps the most striking fact of the review was that all New England colleges at present have established chairs in Biblical Literature during the past ten years, whereas hitherto Yale, Harvard and Brown alone had officially recognized work in this field. The report of the nominating committee was accepted unanimously, officers for the ensuing year being as follows: President, Professor Charles F. Kent of Yale University; Vice-President, Doctor H. G. Buehler of the Hotchkiss School; Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, Chaplain Knox of Columbia University; Recording Secretary, T. R. Hyde of The Hill School.

Professor Irving Wood of Smith College made a plea for more information regarding the colleges of the country which had not yet been standardized.

Dr. Robert L. Kelly, Executive Secretary of the Council of Church Boards of Education, made an address on "The Aims and Plans of the Inter-Church Educational Survey."

The motion offered by Chaplain Knox thanking Dr. Kelly for his generosity in preparing and publishing the report of his Commission on Bible study as a college requirement was unanimously passed. A motion was also passed thanking the Council of Church Boards of Education through Dr. Kelly for publishing the addresses and proceedings of the last meeting of this Association. A motion made by Mr. Goodman was passed that the Society cooperate in every way possible with Dr. Kelly.

Following Dr. Kelly's excellent talk Doctor Frederick J. Bliss of Beirut, Syria, gave a fascinating story of his experiences in Palestine during the war. Doctor Bliss has been in Syria off and on for the last five and one half years, two years in expectation of war, and three years during the blockade of this land, when they were shut off from communication with the outside world, except through enemy sources. Evidence of this blockade is seen in the fact that until it was raised the people of Syria were in total ignorance of Allenby's

drive, and knew nothing of the capture of Jerusalem till months afterwards.

Informal discussion brought up the general question of archaeological search in Palestine. Doctor Barton of Bryn Mawr spoke gratefully about the Institute of Oriental Research in Jerusalem which was founded in 1900 for three purposes: first, for research in the study of ancient languages; second, to "catch archeology alive" through observation; and third, to give students of America opportunity to study the fifth Gospel, namely the Holy Land itself. The original society of Biblical Exegesis and Literature founded in 1895, united with an English society of great wealth to establish this institute, making it possible to give fellowships for one year to students of England and America. Professor Fowler spoke with great appreciation of Doctor Barton and his remarkable work.

Wednesday morning at Earl Hall Professor Frank McMurry of Teachers' College, Columbia University, spoke on "Modern Methods in Teaching."

Books dealing with this subject are Dewey's "Democracy and Education," Dewey's "How We Think," McMurry's "How to Study."

Following Professor McMurry's paper, the subject of connecting the College Biblical work with the Theological Seminary was taken up, introduced by Professor George Dahl of the Yale School of Religion, and Professor W. H. Wood, of Dartmouth.

Professor Peritz of Syracuse spoke with many practical suggestions on the question of horizontal and vertical divisions of the Bible material. He has tried both methods at Syracuse University as follows:

The history, literature and religion of the Old Testament.

1. Pre-exilic period of the Old Testament.
2. Post-exilic.
3. The New Testament through the life of Christ.
4. The New Testament covering the apostolic age.

Each one of these four courses dealt with all three subjects, namely, the history, literature and religion.

At the present time Professor Peritz uses the following courses, two in number:

1. The literature and religion of the Old Testament, as well as the literature and religion of the New Testament.

2. The history of the Old and New Testament.

Professor Lane of Hartford emphasized the need for Greek and Hebrew in seminaries and complained that the Hebrew study done in college was, as a rule, not thoroughly done, requiring seminary students to repeat this work and get a fresh start in both Greek and Hebrew. He would teach Greek and Hebrew side by side, however, starting Greek in the first semester and gaining a little momentum before taking up Hebrew in the second semester.

Miss Judd, of Mt. Holyoke, remarked that the problem in women's colleges is quite different from that in men's colleges. Miss Laura Wild of Mt. Holyoke stated that there were two problems in connection with this question in women's colleges. All students have to take Bible, although very few are going on with their study of it. How can the college be fair to the majority of students and still give adequate preparation to those who are intending to use the course as a foundation for further study? It is quite clear that practice dictates a separate course for each of these groups of students.

Following this discussion Professor Irving F. Wood of Smith College read a very enlightening paper, entitled, "One Way of Teaching the Pentateuch." During the discussion which followed Professor Wood's paper Professor Dahl raised the question of beginning the course with the Prophets instead of the Pentateuch. Professor Wood replied that it makes very little difference whether you start with the Prophets or with the Pentateuch. He has tried both ways at Smith.

Professor Barton of Bryn Mawr was inclined to think that there is less strain in beginning with the Prophets. In the first place, they are datable, they are landmarked, and may be more easily located and classified. After one has studied the Prophets he is willing to admit the right of higher criticism. A further means of reconciling higher criticism is to study a book like Professor Kent's "Beginnings of Hebrew History" and Serall's "Historical and Biographical Narra-

tives" where one can compare side by side the conflicting strands of the same narrative.

Professor Robert S. Smith of Smith College next read a paper on "One Way to Teach the Prophets," which he amended to the enjoyment of all present to read, "Merely One Way to Teach the Prophets." There was no discussion following this paper.

The paper read by Professor Henry T. Fowler of Brown University, "Teaching the Apocrypha and the Pseudepigrapha," endeavored to increase the interest of the students in the events and problems of the later period of Hebrew history. It is worth while to know that cheap volumes of the Apocrypha and the Pseudepigrapha may be obtained complete for teachers in the Charles edition. Students can obtain the editions published by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge in London, England.

Professor Frank L. Day of Randolph Macon College was unable to be present due to illness. His paper, however, on the use of the stereopticon is printed.

Miss Wild of Mt. Holyoke spoke on the use of stereopticon and other illustrations, emphasizing the physiography of Palestine compared with that of our land. Slides of Egypt, Babylon and of Palestine may be secured. It is well worth while to have pictures on bulletin boards, and in class rooms, as well as clay tables. The National Geographic Society and Underwood and Underwood can furnish excellent photographs. Professor Peritz told of having made many slides himself. Professor Kent appointed a committee to look up slides and a list of desirable pictures and other material. This committee is composed of Professor Peritz, chairman, Miss Wild, Professor Stearns and Professor Bailey.

The next session will be held at the Hill School at Pottstown, Pa., which has extended to the association an invitation to meet under its hospitable roof. The initial session will probably begin Thursday night, December 28, and extend to Friday, December 29. Special stress will be laid on the problems of the secondary school and the correlation of this work with that of the college.

The papers delivered at the sessions follow in somewhat summarized form.